

The Daily Tar Heel

INSIDE THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 12, 1996



P is for peeved
P2P workers are upset with the way students reacted to their early closure Friday morning. *Page 2*



School daze
Area schools may have class on teacher workdays to make up for days lost to Fran. *Page 9*



Men's soccer punished again
Coach Elmar Bolowich handed down penalties Wednesday. *Page 13*

Today's Weather
Partly cloudy, chance of rain; low 80s.
Friday: Cloudy; low 80s.

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University community unites to tidy up Fran's mess



Cooperation was the name of the game at McCorkle Place. These two University students helped each other roll part of a tree trunk off the quad and over to the debris pile for pickup Wednesday afternoon.

Students, faculty and staff cleared fallen trees and raked leaves.

BY ASHLEY STEPHENSON
AND RAY WATTERS
STAFF WRITERS

The hum of chain saws and leaf blowers accompanied the campuswide cleanup that began at noon Wednesday. With classes canceled from noon to 7 p.m., students, faculty and staff gathered at three different locations on campus.

Participation was most evident at the Old Well, where nearly 1,000 students arrived within the first hour. Because of the overwhelming support, only 15 UNC workers were needed to oversee the site. "There's no way we could've accomplished close to this much without this extraordinary effort," said Kirk Pelland, the University forester in charge of the Old Well site.

Student Body President Aaron Nelson, who suggested the widespread cleanup, also participated at the Old Well cleanup area.

"I could not be more pleased," he said. "There is a tremendous sense of community."

The first 1,000 students to volunteer



DTH/AMY CAPPIELLO

Hundreds of University students, faculty and staff joined together in McCorkle Place on Wednesday afternoon to help with the cleanup effort. People used chainsaws, rakes and blowers to remove tree trunks, branches and leaves.

were issued red coupons redeemable for a free meal served in the Pit on Wednesday evening. Local vendors donated enough food for 1,000 meals. Due to inclement weather, the cookout was moved underneath the awning in front of the Student Union.

Volunteers also helped clean up Coker Arboretum.

Ken Moore, assistant director for the Botanical Garden and the Coker Arboretum, said the recovery of the Arboretum probably would not be complete until the beginning of winter, but he said the cleanup had expedited the process.

"I think it's great what the students,

SEE CLEANUP, PAGE 4

Victims of Fran to get aid

Forty counties in the state have been declared federal disaster areas.

BY MELISSA STEELE
SENIOR WRITER

Forty counties in North Carolina have now been declared federal disaster areas due to the damage done by Hurricane Fran. As a result of this state of emergency, Gov. Jim Hunt announced that \$25 million would be put forth to help the public get buildings, land and lives back in order.

"This money will go a long way toward helping our citizens in the worst-hit areas put their lives back together," Hunt stated in a press release. "This immediate assistance from the state will help us get the relief we need — and fast — from the federal government."

The state is required to match 25 percent of federal funding. Since the total amount of federal funding has not been determined, the \$25 million is just the initial state aid.

"This is just a start," said Tom Hegele, the chief information officer of the state emergency response team. "We have to provide 25 percent of the total amount. It may be years before it all comes out."

Hegele said they were still working on the details of putting 1989's Hurricane Hugo to bed.

One of Hunt's main concerns was getting public schools back in session. Much of the money provided will go to cleaning up debris and making school yards safe for teachers and students.

"We have to work quickly to get our schools up and running again," Hunt stated in a press release. "We have to make sure their grounds are cleared and that they have safe water and adequate power so students and teachers can get back into their classrooms."

Assistant Press Secretary Kim Brooks said Hunt did not yet have a date by which he hoped the cleaning and repairs would be done.

"It's still a little early to tell when

SEE HUNT, PAGE 9

Activists say Defense of Marriage Act a 'step backward'

BY ANNE HARDEN
STAFF WRITER

When the U.S. Senate voted to approve the Defense of Marriage Act on Tuesday, outlawing same-sex marriages, gay rights activists turned the blow into a call for action.

"Clearly it was a step backward... but those sort of things have a way of mobilizing the troops," said Carrboro Mayor Mike Nelson, the first openly gay mayor elected in North Carolina. "The next battleground will be the courts."

The act defines marriage as only the union between one man and one woman. "Both Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., and Sen. Lauch Faircloth, R-N.C., voted for the bill.

In a press release, Helms stated that the bill "will safeguard the sacred institutions of marriage and the family from those who seek to destroy them and who are willing to tear apart the moral fabric of America in the process."

Helms' opponent in this year's Senate race, Democrat Harvey Gantt of Charlotte, has said he supported the bill.

In the Chapel Hill-Carrboro community, unmarried couples — same-sex and different-sex — have been able to register as domestic partners for the last two

years. To date, nine have registered in Carrboro and four have registered in Chapel Hill. Mark Beasley and David Thomas were the first to do so in Chapel Hill.

"I was certainly disappointed when I first started hearing about (the bill)," Beasley said. "It distracts us from the more winnable fights... but it makes me see how important it is to get some progress in the courts: the courts are where we're going to see change in the next five years."

Rick Neal, a health educator and recent UNC graduate, shared Beasley's disappointment.

He said the bill denied homosexuals the recognition and benefits that heterosexuals were guaranteed in marriage. To counter what he saw as discrimination, Neal advocated a communal coming out.

"We have to speak the truth individually, but the necessary second step would be to speak the truth as a community," he said.

Ken Hewett, co-chairman of Bisexuals, Gay men, Lesbians and Allies for Diversity at UNC, said marriage created an incentive for couples to stay together. "People are always talking about how gay people are promiscuous... if we were able to marry, we'd have the same incen-

tive to stay together as straight people."

Hewett also said same-sex marriages were important in cases of serious illness and custody. If married, same-sex couples and their children could take advantage of the health benefits of either partner.

Nelson said the vote disappointed him but did not surprise him. "It's still upsetting that there are so many senators that would take part in gay-bashing."

Helms' press release stated, "This bill in no way (can be described) as a hate-driven bill."

The American Civil Liberties Union is questioning whether the act is constitutional. Matt Coles, a lawyer for the ACLU, argued that Congress couldn't allow states to ignore the laws and actions of other states.

Coles pointed to the U.S. Constitution. "The 'full faith and credit clause' makes it absolutely clear that one state's decree would have to be respected in other states," he said.

Coles said the bill was also unconstitutional under the Fifth Amendment's "equal protection clause" because it drew a distinction between the marriage of a man and a woman and the marriage of a same-sex couple.

SEE SAME SEX, PAGE 2

New bill rejects same-sex marriage

President Bill Clinton has said that he will sign the bill that the Senate passed Tuesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Senate Democratic leader threw cold water today on gay-rights activists' hopes to quickly revive a bill prohibiting job discrimination against homosexuals. Another bill placing federal curbs on same-sex marriages is going to President Bill Clinton for his signature.

In a double blow to gay-rights activists Tuesday, the Senate voted 50-49 to kill the anti-discrimination bill and to reject same-sex marriage in federal law, 85-14.

Heartened by the closeness of the vote on job discrimination, activists said they would lobby supporters to pass the bill before Congress adjourns this fall. Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., asked whether the Senate supported it, said, "I don't think so. I suspect that given the time that we have and the realization that it's not likely to pass in

the House that we'll try to find more votes and make an even more concerted effort next year."

Earlier, Candace Gingrich, the lesbian half sister of House speaker Newt Gingrich, said congressional battles over gay rights were far from over.

"In the long run, the things that have transpired over the past two months are going to produce a whole new generation of active, involved gay and lesbian Americans and our allies," she said.

Twenty-six of the Senate's 47 Democrats joined Republicans in voting for the marriage bill but also voted for the job discrimination measure.

The Senate expressed overwhelming approval of the Defense of Marriage Act and sent it to Clinton, who said he would sign it. The House passed the same bill by a 5-to-1 margin in July.

The Defense of Marriage Act defines marriage in federal law as a legal union between one man and one woman and allows a state to refuse to honor a same-sex marriage performed in any other state. States still would have the authority to legalize gay marriages, but the federal government would not recognize them.

Freshman dropout rates rising



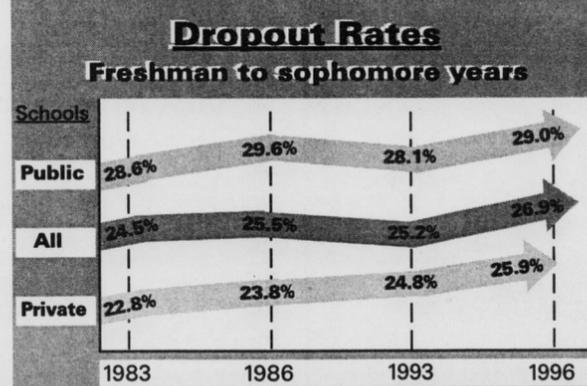
State of the University in America

BY JEFF YOUNG
STAFF WRITER

The number of college freshmen who return to school for their sophomore year is declining nationwide. Across the country, college administrators are searching for ways to reverse this trend.

The current national freshman dropout rate is 26.9 percent, according to a report released by the American College Testing Program in July. That number has increased 2.5 percent since 1983, the report concluded.

"We've been gathering this information from the nation's colleges and universities for 13 years, and never has the



overall dropout rate been as high or the graduation rate as low as was reported this year," ACT President Richard Ferguson said.

A separate U.S. Department of Education study tracked 1,000 freshmen from 1989 through 1994. After one year, 17 percent did not return for their sophomore year. Of those who left school, 89 percent had failed to receive a bachelor's degree by 1994.

The concerns generated by these numbers permeate all campuses, private and public, large and small.

"Freshmen retention has been a major issue for the last year or two," said Jim Major, assistant vice president for enroll-

ment management at Ohio State University.

Ohio State's freshmen retention rate is 77 percent; the national retention rate for public universities is 67 percent, according to the ACT.

"We are utilizing a number of small programs in an attempt to help our freshmen," Major said. One program, known as "clustering," attempts to align freshmen class schedules with their dormitory neighbors' schedules.

"Hopefully by sharing living areas and some classes, these freshmen will develop ties that will prevent them from

SEE UNIVERSITY, PAGE 4

U.S. sends more planes to Iraq following missile attack

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Warning Iraq that America is "not playing games," the Pentagon ordered a pair of B-52 bombers and eight radar-evading F-117 jets to the vicinity of the Persian Gulf on Wednesday to prepare for possible new hostilities with Iraq.

Defense Secretary William Perry, using uncharacteristically harsh language to discuss an Iraqi attempt to fire on U.S. aircraft in the region, pledged a U.S. response to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein "disproportionate to the provocations which were made against us."

At a campaign rally in Arizona, President Bill Clinton spoke in similar terms. "We will do what we must to protect our people," Clinton said. "The determination of the United States to deal with the problem of Iraq should not be underestimated."

The confrontation between the United

States and Iraq began after Saddam sent troops into his country's northern areas in support of one of two contending factions of the country's Kurdish minority. In retaliation, Clinton sent 44 Navy and Air Force cruise missiles to destroy southern Iraq radar sites that might pose a danger to U.S. pilots flying missions to enforce a southern "no-fly" zone barring Iraqi flights.

Republican vice presidential candidate Jack Kemp blamed the Iraqi problem on vacillation by Clinton in formulating foreign policy. "Our alliances are in disarray, and support for our mission is at risk, because President Clinton's policy is vague and uncertain," Kemp said in a statement he issued while campaigning in Georgia. He issued the statement also in the name of the GOP presidential challenger, Bob Dole.

White House spokesman Mike McCurry, when asked if the administration is worried that Iraq is becoming a political issue, said he had heard of Kemp's comments. "I'd say, as we've said in the past, that when we're facing provocative behavior by Saddam Hussein, the United States will fulfil its

SEE IRAQ, PAGE 4

Mother, food, love and career are the four major guilt groups.

Cathy Guisewite